

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 155005

E.O. 11652: N/A

OEXC, CS

TAGS:OEXC, CS

SUBJECT: GRAND RAPIDS STUDENT EXCHANGE

1. THE GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM WILL BE SENDING A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 20 LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO SAN JOSE FOR A FOUR-WEEK TROPICAL BIOLOGY AND COSTA RICAN SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM THIS SUMMER. THE STUDENTS WILL ARRIVE ON JULY 6. APPARENTLY THE LINCOLN SCHOOL AND THE COSTA RICA ACADEMY HAVE HELPED TO PLAN THIS PROGRAM.

2. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS IN GRAND RAPIDS, MR. PHILLIP E. RUNKEL, WROTE TO PRESIDENT FORD ASKING IF HE COULD MEET WITH THE STUDENTS BEFORE THEY LEAVE FOR COSTA RICA AND ALSO ASKING IF AMBASSADOR TODMAN COULD MEET THEM ONCE THEY HAVE ARRIVED IN SAN JOSE. UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO SCHEDULE DEMANDS, THE PRESIDENT WILL BE UNABLE TO MEET THE GROUP. THE WHITE HOUSE HAS REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT TO SEE IF AMBASSADOR TODMAN WILL BE ABLE TO MEET WITH THEM. ACCORDINGLY, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE AMBASSADOR COULD SET ASIDE SOME TIME TO GREET THESE STUDENTS IF HE IS NOT ALREADY PLANNING TO DO SO. SHOULD THE AMBASSADOR NOT BE AVAILABLE, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF A MEMBER OF THE EMBASSY STAFF COULD MEET WITH THE GROUP AND

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EXTEND APPROPRIATE COURTESIES. INGERSOLL

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